

COVID-19 Fact Sheet- For Immunocompromised or People with Certain Medical Conditions.

If you are a patient who is considered by your healthcare provider as being in a moderate to severe immunocompromised state, this requires you to take precautions in your daily life that many other people do not have to consider.

A moderate to severe immunocompromised state increases the risks associated with COVID-19. We'd like to provide some helpful information as you access the community.

Masking and Prevention Recommendations:

- High-quality face coverings such as N95s and KN95s are very effective in preventing infection. Medical-grade masks have successfully protected healthcare personnel even in the presence of unmasked COVID-19 patients in hospitals.
- Outdoor socializing and good indoor ventilation can also reduce the risk of exposure to COVID and other respiratory infections.
- Maintaining good handwashing and hygiene techniques is another way to boost your protection when navigating public areas.

Vaccination and Treatment:

- Vaccines can reduce the risk of severe illness and hospitalization caused by COVID-19.
 Make sure that you are up to date on COVID vaccinations as recommended by your PCP (Primary Care Provider) or the Specialist who is treating your condition.
- Consult with your healthcare provider to review how you can assess your personal risk and treatment options.
- Please see this website about <u>vaccinations in Massachusetts for people with certain</u> medical conditions.
- The CDC (Centers for Disease Control) has frequently <u>updated guidance for those</u> <u>who are immunocompromised</u>.

If You Test Positive for COVID-19:

- If you do test positive, early treatment after you develop even mild symptoms can prevent the
 risk of worsening disease and hospitalization. Contact your healthcare provider to discuss
 the treatment options available for you as soon as you are diagnosed.
- There are several treatments available which may include Paxlovid, Remdesivir, and others. Options change frequently, so stay in touch with your healthcare provider.
- Check in with your insurance if you have coverage questions.

If you have further questions or concerns about your immunocompromised state, please directly contact the healthcare provider who manages your condition.